by December, 2003 and the States of Uttaranchal and Madhya Pradesh by 1.1.2004 and 1.3.2004 respectively. For examining the impact of bio-diesel-diesel blend on vehicles under Indian conditions, the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have decided to launch a pilot project at Rewari. For implementation of the Report of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Rural Development has been made the nodal Ministry.

Policy on sharing of profits

83. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has forwarded a proposal for giving States a share in the profits made from any oil or gas struck in their territories in future;

(b) if so, whether this move envisages the sharing of petroleum profit in 50:50 ratio between the Government and the State concerned and oil or gas found in future from the on-going exploration efforts under the NELP rounds;

(c) whether Government have approved this proposal; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) The Government has forwarded the proposal of State Governments for sharing of Profit Petroleum accruing to the Central Government from the exploration biocks under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in the ratio of 50:50, to the XII Finance Commission for consideration.

Guidelines for selection of dealers

84. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines and criteria for selection of POL and LPG dealers/distributors have been approved by Government;

(b) the number of dealers/distributors selected by the companies during the year 2002-2003 and during the period 1st April-30th September, 2003 State-wise; and